BULLETIN TO THE SCHOOLS

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Enlisting Public Support

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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COVER PICTURE: The Arm of Winter. *Photograph by Irene M. Heffner, Albany.*

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
BULLETIN TO THE SCHOOLS

Issued monthly during the school year by the State Education Department

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Bulletin to the Schools

VOLUME 36 JANUARY 1950 NUMBER 5

Begin Study of Central Schools

Improved Educational Practices and More Effective Community Services Are Sought in State-wide Survey

A STATE-WIDE STUDY into the "depth and character of education in the central schools of the State" was initiated by the Central School Boards section of the New York State School Boards Association at its annual meeting at Syracuse last October. The project got under way in mid-December when representatives from central school boards, central school principals and district superintendents met in New York City for two days to consult with representatives from the State Education Department, the Educational Conference Board and Teachers College, Columbia University, and to plan the program.

Plans call for the inauguration of an active and continuing search for improved educational practices and for broader, more effective service to the communities represented in the central school district. Chief emphasis will be centered upon keeping pace with the fast-moving development of public school education as it can best be exemplified by the central rural or semirural school. State aid will be a factor in the program only in the consideration of its best use.

This joint project will have the benefit of assistance from a group of distinguished specialists in educational administration. Dr Ralph R. Mort, executive officer of the Institute of Administrative Research at Teachers College, Columbia University, will be chairman of a committee of three to direct the study. Other members of this committee are Dr Frank Cyr, professor of rural education at Teachers College and Dr Paul Essert, executive officer of the Institute of Adult Education at Teachers College.

Milford H. Pratt, principal of Barker High School, and chairman of the study committee of the Central School Principals Association, will act as coordinator of the study.

His committee includes Stephen O. Salmon, Vestal; John Bills, Moravia; Hamilton H. Bookhout, Delmar; Paul J. Edinger, North Rose; Howard L. Goff, East Greenbush; Charles C. Jacobs, Holland Patent; Meader G. Pattington, Odessa; Charles J. Hooker, Goshen.

The program for the study is as follows:

1 Ideas and practices, whether concerned with curriculum adjustment, community service or administrative procedures, that are unique or especially effective will be reported by each central school. These will be pooled to form the basis for a magazine, Central Ideas, to be published from time to time. The first issue is expected in March.

To facilitate the gathering and pooling of these ideas, a series of meetings explaining the purpose and plan of the study was scheduled in December and January by the Central School Principals Policies Committee.

2 Trained observers, working under Doctor Mort and his associates, will visit each school to discover good and unusual services, practices and technics. Their findings will be summarized into a composite description of the central school in action and presented as a preliminary report to the State School Boards Association at its annual meeting in 1950.

3 Special problems of the central school — whether in the field of expenditures, tax rates, staffing practices or personnel — which emerge from this state-wide observation and self-analysis will be given intensive study by a staff of consultants engaged for this work. Included are Norton Beach, John Polley and Lorne Woollatt from the Institute of Administrative Research; Arvid J. Burke from the Educational Conference Board; William Vincent from the Citizenship Education Planning Project and Arthur W. Schmidt of the State Education Department.

Individual school problems as they are defined will have the benefit of assistance from research and area study councils, the State Education Department and other appropriate agencies.

The Central School Boards Committee for Educational Research, with George D. Ryder, Cobleskill, as chairman will spearhead the project. Members of the committee include Samuel J. Clark, Pulaski; Lon J. McAdam, Barker; J. Edgar Davidson, Suffern; Ralph J. Osgood, Kings Park; George D. Taylor, Stamford.

The cooperating committee from the State Association of District Superintendents of Schools includes Arthur B. Chapman, Pulaski, and John Harrold, Ellenberg Depot.

The resolution which initiated the project recommended that the central school boards of the State be asked to contribute to the expenses of the study at the rate of 10 cents per pupil, based on the average daily attendance as reported in June 1949.

As an indication of the importance placed by Teachers College upon the rural school, the institutes of the college allied with this project have contributed the sum of $14,000 to the study.

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Regents Pay Tribute to Dr Ernest Cole

A resolution in tribute to former Commissioner Ernest E. Cole, who died November 19th, was adopted by the Board of Regents at its meeting on December 16th.

The resolution reads, in part:

Doctor Cole's experience in the school system and his profound and accurate knowledge of the Education Law and practice was of inestimable value to the State and to all serving in the field of education. Those of us who worked with him knew him as a truly patriotic American, kindly in manner and disposition, ever ready to assist and cooperate with those who, like him, loved the schools and had a deep conviction that the schools are the best support of the American way of life.

What the Community Can Do

New Manual Will Guide Development of Public Understanding and Support of School Program

A GUIDE for community participation in planning for school building needs has been prepared by the Division of Research as an instrument for local use in getting support for a school building program. The scarcity of new school construction since 1930 and the marked increase in elementary enrolments have brought about such an acute shortage of school buildings that almost all the cities and villages of the State have reported the need to build one or more schools, and many of the central school districts are likewise in need of new buildings.

Room To Learn is the third in a series of four guides which seek the solution of school problems through study by representative groups of citizens. The first two are entitled Problems Confronting Boards of Education, and Teachers for Today's Schools. The fourth is a revision of the first and will soon be published under the title, An Educational Program for Our Schools.

The manual recognizes that the broad public support necessary for such an emergency in school construction can be had only through a widespread understanding of the community's educational needs and that an effective way to create such understanding and support is through broad participation of lay citizens in school building planning.

The manual suggests that the board of education appoint an advisory committee of from 10 to 25 members selected for their interest in education, their ability to contribute to such a study and their broad community contacts. This committee is to be charged by the board to study the community's educational needs and to recommend to the board an adequate educational program to fill these needs.

The planning is organized into four steps, seeking answers to these questions:

1 What is our community like? A work sheet is provided for committee use in gathering data on changes taking place in the community which are significant for education.

2 What kind of education do we need? Growing out of its study of the community, the committee, with the aid of its educational consultants, recommends to the board an educational program adequate for the community's needs.

3 What kind of buildings will meet our educational needs? After considering the committee's recommendations, the board adopts an educational program. It has its present school buildings expertly appraised to determine what contribution they can make to the adopted program. Then it plans, cooperatively with the committee and the school staff, for whatever new buildings are needed. An architect is engaged to prepare preliminary plans and cost estimates.

4 How do we get these buildings? In this final step the board adopts a building program and draws up a plan for financing it, with the committee kept in close touch. The committee then undertakes its major function of informing the community of its educational needs and of building support for the program preparatory to the bond issue election.

The manual points out that among the advantages to be expected from lay participation in school building planning are the following:

1 A better school building program is likely to result, for the best thinking of the community will be drawn in.

2 Community uses of the building are less likely to be overlooked in the planning.

3 Finally, the building program adopted is more likely to be approved by the voters, since the program will represent community thinking and since the community will be amply informed on its educational needs. A group of community leaders will have firsthand possession of important facts as to educational needs and will be in a strategic position to build support for the school building program.

Room To Learn was prepared at the suggestion of the Council of School Superintendents. It is also sponsored by the New York State Association of District Superintendents of Schools, the New York State School Boards Association and the New York State Teachers Association.

It was prepared by Dr Paul A. Hedlund, Division of Research, with the advice of Dr Ralph Spence, and under the general direction of Dr J. Cayce Morrison, Assistant Commissioner for Research.

The Department was assisted in the preparation of the manual by an advisory committee including Florence S. Beaumont, assistant superintendent, New York City; Lester B. Foreman, district superintendent, Pittsford; John Holden, State Teachers College, Geneseo; John L. Miller, superintendent, Great Neck; Gladys Newell, teacher, Delmar; and W. Arlo Sylvester, board member, East Greenbush.

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Cooperate for Teaching Thrift

A new approach to education in thrift, civics and money management is being developed in New York schools by the Savings Bond Division of the United States Treasury in collaboration with the auxiliaries of national veterans organizations, according to Philip M. Light, state director of the New York Savings Bonds Division. School savings activities are being sponsored in many communities by representatives of the auxiliaries with study materials supplied by the Treasury.

To gain experience and skill in money management, responsible pupils are being assigned the task of taking orders, collecting funds, keeping records, issuing receipts and purchasing and delivering savings stamps for those who take part in the school savings plan. Savings stamp albums and educational literature are provided by the Savings Bonds Division, 253 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

In Otisville, Principal George Trutner recently introduced a school savings program at the suggestion of Mrs Edna Crandall, national security chairman of the American Legion Auxiliary, who arranged for a Savings Bonds representative to visit the school and acquaint the administrators with the activity. Acting Postmaster Joseph Camberia also appeared to offer his full cooperation.

Report on Antidiscrimination Act

Substantial progress in enforcing the Education Practices Act of 1948 to assure equality of opportunity for admission to higher institutions was reported at a meeting of the Regents committee on antidiscrimination in colleges and universities on December 14th in New York City. On that date representatives of the Association of Colleges and Universities of New York State met with the Regents committee as well as representatives from the following organizations: American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Conference of Christians and Jews, Urban League, Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A., National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students.

Frederick W. Hoeing, administrator of the Education Practices Act, in his report stated that the certification of religious and denominational institutions, required by the law, has been completed. Forty-two colleges have been registered as religious institutions — 29 Catholic, ten Protestant, two Jewish and one Greek Orthodox. Five junior colleges — two Catholic and three Protestant — have been so certified. The exempted colleges represent 15 per cent of the total college enrolment in the State, according to Mr Hoeing, who states that these institutions have also cooperated with the Department and have voluntarily largely eliminated controversial questions on application blanks.

Substantial progress has been made in the elimination from college applications for admission of questions regarding race, religion, color and national origins, Mr Hoeing stated. Of the 193 administrative units of the nondenominational colleges and universities and junior colleges in the State, only two are still asking questions on religion and only one is asking questions regarding nationality. All questions relating to color, race and the nationality of the applicant's parents have disappeared from the application blanks of all the higher education institutions in the State. Details are given in the table at the end of this article.

The Department is engaged in a follow-up study to determine what difficulties 1949 high school graduates experienced in gaining admission to New York State colleges. A questionnaire is going to all high school principals and will be followed by a questionnaire to students.

A pamphlet describing the law and the Regents Rules on its enforcement has been widely distributed to high school counselors and other interested parties.

Figures showing the number of questions dealing with controversial items on the application blanks that have recently been removed or are still retained for 193 administrative units of 75 nondenominational colleges, universities, junior colleges and state institutes follow:

DIRECT QUESTIONS

	Recently Removed	*Still Remaining*	
Race or color	5	0	..
Religion	32	2	1%
Religion optional	2	0	..
Nationality	6	1	1%
Father's nationality	3	0	..
Mother's nationality	3	0	..

INDIRECT QUESTIONS

	Recently Removed	*Still Remaining*	
Photograph	24	68	36%
Place of birth	68	53	28%
Father's place of birth	25	8	4%
Mother's place of birth	21	8	4%
Grandparents' place of birth	2	0	..
Mother's maiden name	25	3	1½%
Church organization included in extracurricular activities	9	2	1%
Clergyman suggested as reference	6	3	1½%
Language spoken in home	4	3	1½%
Change of name	7	2	1%

Planning for New School Year

Suggested School Calendar for 1950-51

			No. of School Days during Month of:	*Legal Holidays Counted*
September	5th	School opens	September 19	
October	12th	Columbus Day*	October 21	Columbus Day
November	7th	Election Day*†	November 19	Election Day Thanksgiving Day
November	23d	Thanksgiving Day*		
November	24th	Vacation‡		
December	21st–29th	Christmas holidays‡	December 14	
January	1st	New Year's Day*	January 22	New Year's Day
January	22d–25th	Regents examinations		
February	12th	Lincoln's Birthday*†	February 18	Lincoln's Birthday Washington's Birthday
February	22d	Washington's Birthday*†	March 15	
March	22d–30th	Easter holidays‡	April 21	
May	30th	Memorial Day*	May 22	Memorial Day
June	18th–21st	Regents examinations	June 16	
June	22d	School closes‡	187	7
			194	

* Legal holidays.
† School authorities decide whether school shall be in session on these days.
‡ School authorities determine vacation periods.

The 1950–51 Register of Attendance will include a school calendar prepared by the Bureau of Statistical Services. The Bureau points out that this is a suggested calendar prepared to assist trustees, boards of education and school administrators to plan a school calendar that will meet the requirements of the statute and will give suitable consideration to local conditions. The suggested calendar is printed above. It will be noted that it provides for 194 days. School is required by statute to be in session 190 days, inclusive of legal holidays and days spent by teachers at district superintendents' conferences and at meetings of the State Teachers Association.

A legal holiday falling on Sunday is to be observed on the following Monday. Labor Day may be counted only when school has opened prior thereto. A legal holiday occurring after school has opened in September is to be counted as one of the 190 days of session required provided it is directly preceded or directly followed by a day on which school is regularly in session. Upon Election Day, Lincoln's Birthday and Washington's Birthday school may be in session or not, as determined by the school authorities. No day is to be counted twice. Therefore, when school is in session on such days, they are not to be listed also as holidays.

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Long Service Honored

Dr William H. Ross, chairman of the board of education at Brentwood, was honored December 9th by the Islip Town School Boards Association in recognition of 50 years of service to Brentwood school district.

Secondary Education

Scholarship Test Dates Advanced

The date of the Regents Scholarship examinations upon which awards for the 1950 series of University and Cornell scholarships and the State Scholarships for Children of Deceased or Disabled Veterans will be based, will be advanced this year to March 6th–7th. This makes it possible to announce the lists of successful candidates before the end of the school year.

By amendment to the Commissioner's Regulations the use of a Regents examination sequence as a partial basis for the award of University Scholarships is discontinued, beginning with the 1950 competition. The Board of Regents approved this change at its December meeting.

The change was recommended by the State Examinations Board, after a careful study by the Division of Examinations and Testing of the results of the use of the sequence in the 1947, 1948 and 1949 series of scholarship examinations. Findings of the study were reported as follows:

The Regents examination sequence had little effect in determining scholarship awards.

Students in foreign language fields were penalized as a result of using the Regents examination sequence.

Regents examinations can not be rated as uniformly as the Regents scholarship examination.

The use of a Regents examination sequence prohibits an earlier establishment of the scholarship award list.

The results of the scholarship study were reported to the Association of Secondary School Principals of New York State and to the New York City Secondary School Principals Association. It was generally agreed by both groups that the use of Regents examination sequences for scholarship purposes should be discontinued.

It is strongly advised that candidates for the University and Cornell scholarships make early application for admission to New York State colleges.

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New Post for Superintendent

Clayton E. Rose, superintendent of schools at Penn Yan since 1937, resigned February 1st to become assistant to Dr Arvie Eldred, executive secretary of the New York State Teachers Association. Mr Rose was previously supervising principal of Hamilton Central School.

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Herbert H. Crumb Dies

Herbert H. Crumb, superintendent of the Union-Endicott schools for 33 years until his retirement in 1946, died December 25th at Oxford.

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Former Superintendent Dies

Hugh H. Lansing, former superintendent of schools at Watervliet and principal of schools in Troy for several years, died January 5th at Watervliet. He had retired in 1940 after serving 47 years in the schools of the two cities.

Principals Support Readjustment Study

Hearty indorsement and support was given the program for readjustment of education in the secondary schools, now under study by a Regents appointed advisory council, in a resolution adopted by the New York State Association of Secondary School Principals at the annual meeting of that organization at Syracuse, December 4th–6th.

Other resolutions adopted urged the Legislature to give immediate attention to the critical shortage of adequate school buildings; urged full recognition of the junior high school as a distinct unit of the public school system; favored legislation to improve teacher retirement provisions and amendments to the tenure law for teacher protection; indorsed the principle of loyalty of teachers as written into the civil service and education laws, with protection of the constitutional rights of all school personnel and defense of a teacher's freedom to teach facts about any form of government, social institutions and economic developments; recommended continuance of the study of principals' salaries and a minimum salary schedule for secondary school principals be established for New York State.

The association also adopted a resolution in tribute to the late Dr Ernest F. Cole, former Commissioner of Education.

Frank K. Mosher of Marion was elected president of the association for the ensuing year. Other officers elected include: vice presidents, T. Walsh McQuillan, Au Sable Forks; Willard F. Prior, Oneida; Earl Vandermeulen, Port Jefferson, and Martin M. Mansperger, Freeport; immediate past president, Albert O. Jenkins, Geneseo; secretary, Philip Schweickhard, Snyder; assistant secretary, Louis Wolner, Homer; treasurer, Wilbur T. Miller, Corning; assistant treasurer, William Hageny, Cold Spring.

The 1950 meeting of the association will be held at Syracuse December 10th–12th.

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School Lunch Program Gains

Increased participation in the number of schools offering the school lunch program on the reimbursed basis is noted this year. One hundred fifty-seven public, parochial and private schools located in 59 counties are participating this year for the first time. The greatest increase has been in the schools offering the Type A lunch, which provides one-third to one-half of the daily food requirement.

During October 1949 the average daily participation numbered 664,545 pupils.

Application for participation may be made at any time during the year; reimbursement is retroactive only to the beginning of the month in which the application and agreements are approved. School administrators may obtain forms from the Bureau of Home Economics Education, State Education Department.

Elementary Principals Meet

Raymond W. Arnold, principal of Theodore Roosevelt School at Kenmore, was elected president of the New York State Association of Elementary School Principals at the annual meeting of that association held in Syracuse, December 4th–6th.

Other officers elected include: first vice president, Dudley C. Snyder, Union Free School 24, Valley Stream; second vice president, Horace B. Myers, Wolcott Street School, Le Roy. The secretary-treasurer is Charles W. Joyce of Rochester.

Resolutions adopted by the association included the following:

Urging the Legislature to give immediate attention to the problem of providing adequate school buildings

Condemning the employment of Communists and members of other subversive groups in the schools, emphasizing vigilance in the protection of the constitutional right of its members as citizens and approving freedom to teach the facts about forms of government, social institutions and economic developments

Sponsoring amendments to the present teachers' salary law to provide for automatic increments through the 12th step, to mandate increments for steps 13 through 16 under stated conditions and to grant additional increments under stated conditions

Supporting further legislation to liberalize the State Teachers Retirement System

Pledging continued effort to encourage capable young people to consider the field of elementary school teaching as a career

Reaffirming belief in a single salary for principals

Indorsing the work of the Educational Conference Board

The 1950 conference of the Association of Elementary School Principals will be held at Syracuse, December 3d–5th.

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Study Elementary District Schools

The cost of educating the elementary school pupil in district schools having only elementary grades was analyzed recently by the Department's Bureau of Statistical Services, using records for the school year 1947–48. As of June 1948, there were in the State 2117 school districts which maintained only elementary grade schools — 1968 common and 149 union free districts. In the districts studied, there were 115,563 pupils.

The study revealed that the average cost per pupil in the common school districts was $183.96 and in the union free school districts $205.99. The study was made in terms of current expenses and average daily attendance.

The study further revealed that the factor most responsible for high or low cost of maintaining the district elementary school is not the number of teachers a district has nor its geographic location,

but the number of pupils in attendance for a given school year.

A teacher must be employed at not less than $2000 for the year, whether for two or 32 pupils. By far the larger number of non-high school districts in New York State in 1947–48 were one-teacher schools, all but four of which were common school districts. Of the 1968 common school districts, 1487 were one-teacher schools; only four of the 149 union free districts had one-teacher schools.

The study showed that the pupil cost is extremely high in districts with fewer than five children in average daily attendance. There were 48 such districts, whose average pupil cost was $648.17. Even the lowest pupil cost in this group of districts was high at $446.90; the high district of the group was "unbelievably high" at $1322.65. This last was a district with an average daily attendance of only 1.85 pupils; the teacher was paid the mandated salary of $2000.

The lowest pupil cost for the common schools was in the districts with 20–25 average daily attendance, where the average was $144.51, with a range of $95.80 low to $480.95 high. One district with an average daily attendance of 38.59 showed a per pupil cost of only $72.24. The teacher of this district also was paid the mandated minimum salary of $2000.

The lowest pupil cost in elementary union free schools was in the districts with an average daily attendance of 400–500 pupils, where the average cost was $182.48 with a low of $162.42 and a high of $191.91.

The conclusion from the study is that on the average it appears that a district which maintains school for fewer than 12 children in average daily attendance can not expect the cost to be less than $300 to $400 per year per pupil.

Common school districts with a per pupil cost of less than $100 were located in the following counties: Chemung, seven districts; Clinton, five; Onondaga, Oswego, Rensselaer, four each; Chenango, Dutchess, Niagara, Oneida, two each; Broome, Cattaraugus, Delaware, Herkimer, Madison, Orange, Steuben, Tioga, Ulster, one each.

Common school districts with a per pupil cost of over $500 were located in the following counties: Lewis, ten districts; St Lawrence, eight; Ulster, four; Jefferson, three; Delaware, Franklin, Montgomery, Oneida, Onondaga, Suffolk, two each; Broome, Chautauqua, Dutchess, Erie, Fulton, Livingston, Monroe, Nassau, Orleans, Oswego, Rensselaer, Steuben, Sullivan, Washington, one each.

It is to be noted that several of the counties have districts at both extremes.

The excessive cost of maintenance of the small-enrolment school is a factor in the Department's encouragement of centralization and another reason for the Department's appeal for ample state aid for central schools. Reduction in the number of one-teacher schools from 5098 in 1937–38 to 1491 in 1947–48 is proof of the effectiveness of the Department's program to eliminate the small costly district.

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School Names Changed

The following changes in names of schools were authorized by the Regents December 16th:

Greene High School to Greene Central School

Otego High School to Otego Central School

Pulaski Academy and High School to Pulaski Academy and Central School.

Report Urges United Health Program

Coordination of School and Community Health Services is the title of a report recently published by the New York State Department of Health, Office of Public Health Education. It was prepared by a subcommittee of the State Inter-Departmental Health Council.

Appointed by Governor Thomas E. Dewey in October 1946, the Inter-Departmental Health Council consists of the Commissioners of four state departments — Education, Health, Mental Hygiene and Social Welfare. Later in that same year the council appointed a subcommittee of 12 representatives from the same four departments to develop and report on a program to coordinate school and community health services, based on existing laws and department regulations.

School authorities are familiar with the statute which requires that they find every child who needs medical or dental care; notify parents of the conditions found by examinations and tests and then follow through intensively with the individual child and his parents until recommended treatment is secured. Supervisors are provided by the State Education Department to assist local school authorities in the discharge of this legal responsibility. This report on coordination of school and community health services, by pointing the way to more effective utilization of existing resources and treatment facilities for child health, should be of assistance to school authorities in discharging these legal responsibilities.

The report emphasizes, by statement and by suggested program, the importance of health services for school children as an integral part of any broad community health program. The report covers not only the organization for coordination and improvement of health services in a community but is detailed and specific in such fields as communicable disease control, school health examinations and tests, dental health, nutrition, mental hygiene and the care of physically handicapped children and special problem children. A chapter on sanitation sets forth the policies and recommended procedures for both public and private schools. Another chapter discusses health education.

The report represents the pooled judgment of the four cooperating departments as to programs, policies and procedures which should be put into operation for all school children.

The subcommittee believes that a united attack against ignorance, indifference and procrastination is needed to provide protection of the school child's health and that by organizing and directing the resources of private and state agencies, children in small isolated communities as well as those in crowded industrial areas will be assured that protection.

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Eugene Gribbin Dies

Eugene J. Gribbin, superintendent of schools at Glen Cove since 1941, died January 10th. He formerly taught at Oyster Bay and was principal at Glen Cove before becoming superintendent.

Report Urges Increased Library Service

Since 1944 when a study of the present and future status of a state-wide library service in New York State was undertaken at the request of the Council of the New York Library Association, the Division of Research has made several studies of the available library facilities throughout the State. The Division's staff has worked in close cooperation with a group of consultants and with a committee of the New York Library Association. An interim report was presented to the Board of Regents in June 1946. This has been a functional study and is not to be confused with the work of the committee appointed in May 1949 by Governor Dewey to explore the need for more State financial aid to libraries.

In September 1949, a report — Development of Library Services in New York State — was published to bring together the details of the Department's survey and to record the conclusions reached as to the present status of library service in relation to the need. This latest report includes in considerable detail an evaluation of the present public library services in the State from its beginnings — libraries established by the Anglican church in the 17th century to serve the laity and the clergy and the founding of the first of the city public libraries, the New York City or "Corporation" Library in 1728. It also includes a discussion of the various factors — geographical, social and historical — which have influenced library development.

Based on the thesis that all the people of the State are entitled to adequate library service, the report offers the conclusion that to insure state-wide adequacy of service on an economical basis and to make state participation effective, library services should be reorganized so as to separate state and local functions, with the State assuming responsibility for functions of a nonlocal nature.

A plan for regional organization, based on these assumptions, is set forth in detail. Such an organization, supported by legislative appropriation in 1948, is now under way on an experimental basis for Jefferson, Lewis and St Lawrence counties, with headquarters in Watertown.

The report includes tables and charts of data on which the text is based. It was prepared by Dr Errett W. McDiarmid, University Library, University of Minnesota, who was chief consultant for the study; Gretchen K. Schenk, former State Librarian for the state of Washington, who acted as research associate; Charles M. Armstrong and Agnes B. Vedder, Division of Research, and Neil C. Van Deusen of the Division of Library Extension of the Department.

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Magazine Reports on School

Under the title Community School, 1950, the story of the new central school at Orchard Park (Erie county) is a feature article in the annual Your School and You issue (January) of the magazine Seventeen.

Films on Safety Education

The following list of 16-millimeter motion pictures has been compiled by Paul T. Williams, supervisor of visual education in the Bureau of Audio and Visual Aids, with the cooperation of the supervisory staff of the Division of Elementary Education. These films were thought worthy of being brought to the attention of teachers of the elementary grades.

Information regarding the conditions of loan or rental of the films may be obtained from the distributors. These films are *not* available from the State Education Department.

1 One, Two, Three, Go! (10 min; sound)

"Our Gang" characters are the leading actors in this M. G. M. film which demonstrates the safe way of crossing streets. Produced at the request of and in cooperation with national safety councils.

Distributor:

a Film Library (loan)
New York State Department of Health
18 Dove street
Albany 6, N. Y.

b Educational Film Library (rent)
Syracuse University
123 College place
Syracuse 10, N. Y.

2 Playground Safety (10 min; sound)

Stresses the three basic rules of playground safety. Emphasizes their importance through pupil situations on the playground.

Distributor:

Coronet Instructional Films (rent)
207 East 37th street
New York 16, N. Y.

3 Safety Patrol (10 min; sound)

Scenes record the training that patrol members receive and how the training is applied. The nine rules for pedestrian safety are illustrated with actual situations.

Distributor:

General Motors Corporation (loan)
Department of Public Relations
1775 Broadway
New York 19, N. Y.

4 On Two Wheels (14 min; sound)

Bicycle traffic problems are taken into a traffic court run by youngsters. Sentences of "offenders" assist in developing positive safety rules and safety consciousness among bicycle riders.

Distributor:

Syracuse University (See 1*b*)

5 Safety Begins at Home (10 min; sound)

Safety hazards found in the home. How these hazards may be recognized and avoided.

Distributor:

Syracuse University (See 1*b*)

6 Safety to and from School (10 min; sound)

Dramatization of a boy's and girl's experiences to and from school. How, when and where to cross a street.

Distributor:

Syracuse University (See 1*b*)

7 Once upon a Time (10 min; sound; color)

Animated cartoon on street and highway safety. Fairyland characters and settings.

Distributor:

State Department of Health (See 1*a*)

8 Let's Be Safe at Home (10 min; sound; b & w; color)

Stresses the desirability of developing safe attitudes by always remembering to be alert, considerate and courteous. Correct attitudes indicated through five dramatic episodes.

Distributor:

Portafilms (sale)
418 N. Glendale
Glendale 6, Calif.

9 Let's Play Safe (10 min; sound; b & w; color)

Live photography and animation technics serve to dramatize six playground accidents. Incorrect performances corrected through repeat procedure.

Distributor:

Portafilms (sale) (See 8)

10 Let's Stop and Go Safely (10 min; sound; b & w; color)

How each child can be his own traffic policeman by learning and following the rules for safety.

Distributor:

Portafilms (sale) (See 8)

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Building Plans Approved

Building plans recently approved by the Division of School Buildings and Grounds of the Department include the following:

Lowville, shop addition to present garage building, $12,920

Elmira Heights, modernization and repair of present plant, $14,546.26

Saranac Lake, construction repairs and renewals to Broadway Grade School, $27,383.58

Amenia, addition of three classrooms to high school, $35,005.83

Averill Park, new elementary school, $450,000

Richfield Springs, alterations and addition to central school, $281,000

Keeseville, alterations and new bus garage, $120,000

West Winfield, additions to central school, $290,000

District 9, Lewiston, Niagara county, new elementary school building, $104,760

Stockbridge Valley, addition and alteration to high school, $27,000

Franklinville, new bus garage, $70,000

Nyack, additions to high school and Liberty Street Grade School, $672,500

Smithtown Branch, new elementary school, $650,000

East Bloomfield, additions and alterations to high school and bus garage, $324,600

Ogdensburg, addition and restoration of Sherman Grade School, $161,620

Nesconset, new elementary school and alterations to existing building, $280,000

Schroon Lake, new school bus garage, $30,000

South Onondaga, garage and school shop addition to present garage, $37,979.10

Holland Patent, additions and alterations to central school, $215,000

Limestone, bus garage, shop and music room, $35,000

Geneseo, addition and alterations, $192,000

Savannah, bus garage and band practice room, $5000

Ilion, addition and alterations to high school, $321,118

LaFargeville, addition and alterations to existing building, $510,000

Kenmore, converting present basement rooms to classrooms at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, $4000

Dryden, addition and alterations to grade school building, $52,000

DeKalb Junction, new gymnasium, $26,000

Pine Hill, District 11, Cheektowaga, Erie county, additions and alterations to present school building, $80,000

Center Moriches, addition to elementary and high school building, $139,000

Armonk, new primary and kindergarten school (first unit of new elementary school), $224,000

Watertown, Jefferson Farm School gymnasium, $32,300

Homer, addition to and remodeling of present school for a grade school, $488,406; new junior-senior high school, $1,038,543; new bus garage, $66,840.

Action on Charters and Appointments

The Board of Regents at its meeting December 16th in New York City granted an absolute charter to the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel, White Plains, to replace its provisional charter granted in 1922. This is an elementary and secondary school.

An absolute charter was granted to the Sunnyside Progressive Education Association, which conducts a nursery school at 43–42 47th street, Long Island City. This replaces a provisional charter granted in 1932.

A provisional charter, valid for five years, was granted the New York Kindergarten Association, Inc., New York City. The association proposes to operate a nursery school.

A provisional charter, valid for five years, was granted the Baxter Foundation for Research in Education, Inc., New York City. The foundation will carry on research in education, in guidance and student adjustment and will give courses in these subjects for teachers and students.

Appointments made by the Board of Regents at its meeting in New York City on December 16th include:

Martin J. Dupraw, White Plains, was reappointed to the Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters for a term of three years beginning January 1, 1950.

Dr Walter P. Anderton, New York City, and Carl P. Wright, Syracuse, were reappointed to the State Nurse Council, each for a term of three years beginning January 1, 1950.

Margaret Conrad, New York City, was appointed to the State Nurse Council for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 1950, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Grace A. Warman, New York City.

Dr Morris Krugman, an assistant superintendent of schools, New York City, was appointed an advisory member of the Vocational Guidance Council.

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Tribute to Doctor Brady

The Board of Regents on December 16th adopted the following resolution in tribute to Dr Stanley Brady, for four years a member of the Board until his resignation on December 31, 1948:

We record with profound sorrow the death, on November 22, 1949, of Stanley Brady. Doctor Brady, who had a distinguished career in medicine as a pediatrician, was elected to the Board of Regents on February 9, 1944. He brought to his work a profound knowledge of human nature gained in the practice of the healing art and a deep interest in and understanding of the needs of children, enriched and ennobled by a warm sympathetic nature and kindly manner. He gained our admiration by his indefatigable labors as a Regent and won our affections by his sterling character as a man. We were sorry indeed when ill health forced his resignation on December 31, 1948, and shocked by the news of his sudden death.

Regents Approve Bond Issues

The Board of Regents approved proposed bond issues for schools of the State at its meeting on December 16th in New York City. This action was taken in accordance with the requirement of the local finance law that the Board of Regents approve propositions for bond issues to cover school improvements in districts where the cost of such improvements would bring the bonded indebtedness above 10 per cent of the assessed valuation of the district's real property.

The issues approved were as follows:

Allegany Central School, an issue of $675,000 for construction of an addition to and reconstruction of the central school building

Berlin Central School, an issue of $7500 for purchase of a school bus

Mexico Central School, an issue of $15,000 for purchase of two school buses

New Hartford Central School, an issue of $1,635,000 for construction of a school building and school bus garage and alteration of the existing school building

Northville Central School, an issue of $240,000 for construction of an addition to the school building and the school bus garage

Penfield Central School, an issue of $565,000 for construction of additions to the school building, the purchase of furnishings and equipment and grading of the site

Oriskany Central School, an issue of $100,000 for construction of an addition to the school building

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Budget Information

Growing Up in Yonkers is the title of a booklet which presents the city's proposed school budget for 1950 in simplified form, with graphs and drawings to underscore the facts. Included are data about receipts and expenditures, income and budget as compared with the previous year, together with what is needed for better schools and what the 1950 budget will buy. A chart shows educational costs in Yonkers as compared with other Westchester cities. Sketches emphasize the increased school population.

For general distribution to citizens of the city, the booklet is intended to give important information about the school system. In the foreword the board of education says, "Providing proper education for the children of Yonkers is your concern as well as ours. The schools belong to you. You are therefore entitled to know the facts."

Fifty Years of Progress

The fiftieth annual report of the superintendent of schools of New York City has been issued by the board of education in an impressive 200-page bound volume generously illustrated with photographs, drawings and reproductions of old prints.

The report covers the years 1898–1948, is titled Fifty Years of Progress and reports the progress in public education during the first half-century of the consolidated school system of the Greater City of New York.

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New Central School

The Lisbon Central School district was voted December 15th by a vote of 486 to 283. The new district includes the Lisbon Union Free School and 22 common school districts in St Lawrence county.

Educational Notes

Intensive Training Adds Teachers

The intensive teacher-training program adopted by the Department in April 1948 has added between 400 and 500 new teachers to the critically short supply for elementary grades.

Under this plan a college graduate, upon completion of one summer session of special professional training in a state teachers college, can receive a renewable certificate to teach in elementary schools. These certificates are subject to five annual renewals, dependent upon continued graduate study and satisfactory teaching experience. Permanent certificates are to be issued on completion of 30 semester hours in approved courses.

Dr Dwight E. Beecher of the Division of Research is engaged in a cooperative study with the state teachers colleges to evaluate the effectiveness of this plan.

A preliminary evaluation report issued to the state teachers colleges participating in the program indicates that 138 persons were registered in the program during the summer of 1948. Of this group, 127 entered teaching in the fall of 1948. Most of the teachers appraised were rendering satisfactory teaching service and 109 were re-employed for the school year 1949–50.

The second group to enter the program, in the summer of 1949, numbered 454 persons, and at least 307 of these were teaching in September 1949.

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Chancellor Edmund E. Day Retires

Dr Edmund E. Day, president of Cornell University from 1937 until July 1949 and now chancellor, will retire from the university January 31st, for reasons of health.

The university's fifth president and first chancellor, Doctor Day has guided Cornell in a period of unprecedented growth and development. Under his administration, the university established schools of chemical and metallurgical engineering, business and public administration, and nutrition, the graduate school of aeronautical engineering, the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations and the Floyd Newman Laboratory of Nuclear Studies; added the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory in Buffalo and affiliated the New York Hospital School of Nursing to the university. Ten major buildings have been erected.

Doctor Day's service to Cornell was described by Neal Dow Becker, chairman of the university's board of trustees as "one of inspiring leadership and distinguished achievement."

Dr Cornelis A. deKiewiet, provost, is acting president of the university.

Guidance Leaders Confer

Nearly 100 persons attended the Regional Guidance Conference, Mid-Hudson Section, sponsored by the Bureau of Guidance and held in the Middletown High School, December 9th. The general chairman was Boyd R. Swem, director of guidance, Middletown public schools.

Principal speakers at the morning session were Paul McGann, supervisor, Bureau of Guidance, and Mary Catherine Hudson, counselor, Mechanicville High School. Mr McGann reviewed the activities and recent developments in the Bureau of Guidance; Miss Hudson outlined a special group instruction technic in guidance materials currently being used at Mechanicville High School. Arthur Daddazio, director of guidance, Newburgh, presided.

The afternoon session was opened with a talk by Dr Alexander Wesman of the Psychological Corporation, New York City, on "Standardized Testing for Local Programs." Speaking on "Employment Trends," Alfred L. Starkweather, employment interviewer, New York State Employment Service, closed the program. Betty Jane Loomis, director of guidance, Port Jervis, presided at the afternoon session.

The conference was attended by teachers, counselors, psychologists, students, representatives from teachers colleges, principals, superintendents and employment counselors.

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Good Lunch Program

One of several schools which have found a workable solution to the problem of a supervised lunch period is the Purchase Elementary School, the Bureau of Home Economics Education reports. A 30-minute lunch period has been scheduled for each group. The boys and girls eat in a gay yet restful atmosphere, relax and find the lunch period a social experience. After lunch each child joins his or her chosen group where activities are planned to interest pupils of various ages. Some of the activities are directed by the teachers; a number of the groups for younger pupils are carried on under the leadership of the older boys and girls.

Leland Silliman is principal of the Purchase Elementary School.

School Lunch Meetings

The New York State School Lunch Advisory Committee will hold its sixth annual meeting in Albany on February 23d. Mrs Hilton H. Dier of Lake George will act as chairman. The committee is made up of representatives of state, local and professional organizations concerned with health and nutrition programs for family and community groups.

A conference for directors of school lunch programs will be held February 24th in the Regents Room, State Education Building. Discussion topics will include qualifications and classification of personnel and the more extensive use of the school lunch program as one of the mediums for educational and social experiences of pupils.

Half-Century of Service Completed

A notable service of more than 51 years to the State Education Department ended December 31st when Katharine Schafer retired from her position as principal printing clerk in the Bureau of Publications.

Miss Schafer joined the staff of the State Board of Regents on June 25, 1898, as a junior clerk at $240 a year. During the course of her career the State Education Department was created by the merging in 1904 of the Board of Regents with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Her work progressed from the writing of diplomas and certificates by hand to the handling and recording annually of many thousands of dollars of printing in the Department's printing plant and by contract with state printers. For more than 40 years of the half-century that she worked with the Education Department, her work was concerned directly with printing.

Members of the staff of the State Education Department gathered in the Regents Room of the State Education Building on December 8th to pay tribute to Miss Schafer and to present gifts to her. Governor Thomas E. Dewey, Chancellor William J. Wallin of the Board of Regents and Commissioner of Education Francis T. Spaulding were among those who sent letters of appreciation for her loyal and efficient service.

Miss Schafer attended the December 16th meeting of the Board of Regents in New York City, on Chancellor Wallin's invitation. At that meeting Commissioner Spaulding, formally reporting Miss Schafer's retirement, said: "Miss Schafer has established a remarkable record for length of service and for devotion to duty. In the important field of printing, she has served faithfully and efficiently and has given immeasurable aid to many persons for many years and has thus helped to advance important Department projects."

Chancellor Wallin and other members of the Board paid tribute to Miss Schafer, and the Regents formally expressed "their deep appreciation to Katharine Schafer for her long and faithful service."

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Former State Botanist Dies

Dr Homer D. House, who retired November 30, 1948 as State Botanist in the New York State Museum and the State Science Service, died suddenly at his home in Loudonville on December 21st.

Doctor House was a member of the staff of the State Museum for 35 years, and for 34 years of that time he was State Botanist. His activities in that position are recorded in the many reports published by the State Museum, including the two-volume Wild Flowers of New York, as well as by the increased facilities of the Museum and the State Science Service to other state departments and to individuals and organizations.

In addition to conducting surveys on the flora of New York State and engaging in botanical research, he added many items to the State Herbarium and developed a record system showing the distribution in the State of every known species of fern and flowering plant.

Jay R. Crowley Retires

Jay R. Crowley

Jay R. Crowley, a member of the staff of the State Education Department since 1907, retired December 31st as associate education supervisor (adult education). Since 1940 Mr Crowley has been responsible for the administration of the New York State Regents Literacy Tests.

Mr Crowley was appointed in 1907 by Commissioner of Education Andrew S. Draper to organize and conduct an educational program at Dannemora State Prison. He was head teacher in charge of the prison school there from 1907 to 1910 and at Sing Sing from 1911 to 1919.

In 1919 he was appointed to the Americanization Bureau of the Department. He assisted with the organization and conduct of schools for the illiterate and non-English-speaking people and for several summers conducted teacher-training courses for the Americanization program. He also worked on the development of apprentice training classes and in recent years he supervised evening apprentice and trade extension classes in New York City and the Hudson Valley section.

At the age of 15 years Mr Crowley received a certificate permitting him to teach in the one-room log schoolhouse in the Mutton Hollow District of Great Valley, N. Y. He later taught in several rural schools in that area. Afterward he was graduated from the State College for Teachers at Buffalo and was superintendent of schools at Willow City, North Dakota, and principal at Dannemora, N. Y.

A number of groups paid tribute to Mr Crowley upon his retirement.

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Seeing the United Nations

What You Will See at the United Nations is the title of an illustrated booklet compiled by Howard A. Shiebler, formerly in charge of public information for the New York City Board of Education, and published by Important Books, Inc., Garden City. Through official photographs and text the publication describes the work of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council and gives an outline of other U. N. agencies. The brochure is planned for those who wish to have an understanding of the United Nations and how it functions, for teachers and pupils planning trips to the United Nations or preparing themes on it, and for other visitors to United Nations headquarters.